General Assembly

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20 March 2008

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 70 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/62/439/Add.3)*]

62/168. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, [1] the International Covenants on Human Rights [2] and other international human rights instruments,

Mindful that the Islamic Republic of Iran is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[3] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[4]

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most recent of which is resolution 61/176 of 19 December 2006,

Regretting that no special procedure has been permitted to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran since July 2005, despite the standing invitation extended by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to all human rights thematic monitoring mechanisms in April 2002,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the ongoing systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of the people of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as described in the above-mentioned resolutions, and at the failure of the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement the steps called for in those resolutions;

2. *Expresses its very serious concern* that, since the adoption of resolution 61/176, there have been, inter alia, confirmed instances of:

(*a*) Torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including flogging and amputations;

(*b*) Public executions, including multiple public executions, and other executions carried out in the absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards;

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[4] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

(*c*) Stoning as a method of execution, and the continued issuing of sentences of execution by stoning;

(*d*) Execution of persons who were under the age of 18 at the time their offence was committed, contrary to the obligations of the Islamic Republic of Iran under article 37 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[4] and article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[2]

(*e*) Arrests, violent repression and sentencing of women exercising their right to peaceful assembly, a campaign of intimidation against women's human rights defenders, and continuing discrimination against women and girls in law and in practice;

(*f*) Increasing discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, recognized or otherwise, including, inter alia, Arabs, Azeris, Baluchis, Kurds, Christians, Jews, Sufis and Sunni Muslims and their defenders, and, in particular, attacks on Baha'is and their faith in State-sponsored media, increasing evidence of efforts by the State to identify and monitor Baha'is, preventing members of the Baha'i faith from attending university and from sustaining themselves economically, and an increase in cases of arbitrary arrest and detention;

(*g*) Ongoing, systemic and serious restrictions of freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of opinion and expression, including those imposed on the media and trade unions, and increasing harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents and human rights defenders from all sectors of Iranian society, including arrests and violent repression of labour leaders, labour members peacefully assembling and students;

(*h*) Persistent failure to uphold due process of law rights, and violation of the rights of detainees, including the systematic and arbitrary use of prolonged solitary confinement;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to respect fully its human rights obligations and in this regard to implement fully the above-mentioned resolutions, and in particular:

(*a*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, amputations, flogging and other forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*b*) To abolish, in law and in practice, public executions and other executions carried out in the absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards;

(*c*) To abolish, in law and in practice, the use of stoning as a method of execution;

(*d*) To abolish, as called for by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in its report of January 2005,[5] executions of persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18;

(*e*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls;

(*f*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, linguistic or

[5] See CRC/C/146.

other minorities, recognized or otherwise, to refrain from monitoring individuals on the basis of their religious beliefs, and to ensure that access of minorities to education and employment is on par with that of all Iranians;

(*g*) To implement, inter alia, the 1996 report of the Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance,[6] which recommended ways in which the Islamic Republic of Iran could emancipate the Baha'i community;

(*h*) To end the harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents and human rights defenders, including by releasing persons imprisoned arbitrarily or on the basis of their political views;

(*i*) To uphold due process of law rights and to end impunity for human rights violations;

4. *Encourages* the thematic special procedures of the Human Rights Council to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran and otherwise continue their work to improve the situation of human rights in the country, and urges the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to live up to the commitment it made when it issued a standing invitation to special procedures by cooperating with them, and to illustrate how their subsequent recommendations are being addressed;

5. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at its sixty-third session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights", and to this end requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a comprehensive report on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

76th plenary meeting
18 December 2007

[6] See E/CN.4/1996/95/Add.2.

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/62/439/Add.3)*]

62/169. Situation of human rights in Belarus

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other applicable human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil their international obligations,

Mindful that Belarus is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[2] and the first Optional Protocol thereto,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[3] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[4] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[5] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[6] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[7] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[8]

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2003/14 of 17 April 2003,[9] 2004/14 of 15 April 2004[10] and 2005/13 of 14 April 2005,[11] Human Rights Council decision 1/102 of 30 June 2006,[12] and its resolution 61/175 of 19 December 2006,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[4] Ibid., vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[6] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[7] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[8] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

[9] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[10] Ibid., *2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[11] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[12] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/61/53), part one, chap. II, sect. B.

Concerned that the presidential election of 19 March 2006 was severely flawed due to arbitrary use of State power and fell significantly short of Belarus' commitments at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to hold a free and fair election, that the Government of Belarus did not take measures to ensure that the local elections of 14 January 2007 met international standards and that the situation of human rights in Belarus in 2007 continued to significantly deteriorate, as documented in the reports of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus,[13] which found that systematic violations of human rights continue to take place in Belarus,

Disappointed that the Belarusian authorities again failed to create conditions for the Belarusian people to freely express their will during local elections on 14 January 2007 by denying the basic rights of freedom of assembly and association, as well as with the lack of progress made by the Government of Belarus in addressing noted shortfalls,

1. *Expresses deep concern:*

(*a*) About the continued use of the criminal justice system to silence political opposition and human rights defenders, including through arbitrary detention, lack of due process and closed political trials of leading opposition figures and human rights defenders;

(*b*) About the failure of the Government of Belarus to cooperate fully with all the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, in particular with the Special Rapporteurs on the situation of human rights in Belarus, while noting the serious concern relating to the continued and systematic violations of human rights in Belarus and the further erosion of the democratic process expressed by seven independent human rights experts of the United Nations in a statement issued on 29 March 2006;

(*c*) That in spite of detailed recommendations by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and dialogue between the Government of Belarus and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe following previous elections, and despite calls from the General Assembly to adopt the recommendations of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe following the flawed presidential election of 2006, Belarus again failed to meet its commitments to hold free and fair elections during municipal elections in January 2007, including by using intimidation and the arbitrary application of registration standards to exclude opposition candidates, by severely restricting the access of registered candidates to voters and the mass media, through routine harassment, the detention and arrest of political and civil society activists, and the negative portrayal in the State media of opposition candidates and activists, including human rights defenders, and by preventing access by independent local observers to polling stations;

(*d*) About the continued use of the arbitrary application of registration standards to prevent non-governmental organizations from operating, including the use of the arbitrary denial of leases and evictions to prevent organizations from acquiring valid addresses;

[13] A/HRC/4/16.

(*e*) About the continued harassment and detention of Belarusian journalists and the suspension and banning of independent media covering local opposition demonstrations, that senior officials of the Government of Belarus were implicated in the enforced disappearance and/or summary execution of three political opponents of the incumbent authorities in 1999 and of a journalist in 2000 and in the continuing investigatory cover-up, as documented in the report adopted in resolution 1371 (2004) of 28 April 2004 by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe,[14] and that the Government of Belarus has ignored calls of that body to account for their disappearance;

(*f*) About the failure of the Belarusian authorities to heed calls to reinstate the teaching licence of the European Humanities University in Minsk and about the increasing harassment of its students while the university operates in exile;

(*g*) About continued persistent reports of harassment and closure of non-governmental organizations, national minority organizations, independent media outlets, religious groups, opposition political parties, independent trade unions, and independent youth and student organizations, and the harassment and prosecution of individuals, including students and their relatives, engaged in the promotion and protection of human rights, the rule of law and democracy, especially those students returning to Belarus;

2. *Urges* the Government of Belarus:

(*a*) To release immediately and unconditionally all individuals detained for politically motivated reasons and other individuals detained for exercising or promoting human rights;

(*b*) To cease politically motivated prosecution, harassment and intimidation of political opponents, pro-democracy activists and human rights defenders, independent media, national minority activists, religious organizations, educational institutions and civil society actors, and to cease the harassment of students and create the conditions whereby they can continue their studies in Belarus;

(*c*) To bring the electoral process and legislative framework into line with international standards, especially those of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to demonstrate such commitment through the parliamentary elections due in 2008 and to rectify the shortcomings of the electoral process, identified by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in its report of 7 June 2006, including election laws and practices that restrict campaigning opportunities for de facto opposition candidates, the arbitrary application of electoral laws, including with regard to the registration of candidates, obstruction of the right of access to the media, biased presentation of the issues by the State media and the falsification of vote counts;

(*d*) To respect the rights to freedom of speech, assembly and association;

(*e*) To suspend from their duties officials implicated in any case of enforced disappearance, summary execution and torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, pending investigation of those cases, and to ensure that all necessary measures are taken to investigate fully and impartially such cases and to bring the alleged perpetrators to justice before an independent tribunal, and, if found guilty, to ensure that they are punished in accordance with the international human rights obligations of Belarus;

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[14] See Council of Europe, Parliamentary Assembly, document 10062.

(*f*) To uphold the right to freedom of religion or belief, including the ability to maintain communications with individuals and communities in matters of religion and belief at the national and international levels;

(*g*) To investigate and hold accountable those responsible for the mistreatment, arbitrary arrest and incarceration of human rights defenders and members of the political opposition;

(*h*) To carry out the recommendations of the International Labour Organization Commission with regard to respecting core labour rights of freedom of association for workers;

(*i*) To carry out all other steps called for by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2005/13,[11] as well as General Assembly resolution 61/175;

3. *Insists* that the Government of Belarus cooperate fully with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, as well as with all mechanisms of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

76th plenary meeting
18 December 2007

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/62/439/Add.5)*]

62/170. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 61/106 of 13 December 2006, as well as relevant resolutions of the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on Human Rights,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[1] and the Optional Protocol thereto[2] on 13 December 2006, and expresses the hope that they will enter into force at an early date;

2. *Also welcomes* the fact that since the opening for signature of the Convention and the Optional Protocol on 30 March 2007, one hundred and nineteen States have already signed and fourteen States have ratified the Convention and sixty-seven States have signed and three States have ratified the Optional Protocol, and calls upon those States which have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention and the Optional Protocol as a matter of priority;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to assist States to become parties to the Convention and the Optional Protocol, including by providing assistance with a view to achieving universal adherence;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the staff and facilities necessary to support the effective performance of the functions of the Conference of States Parties and also to foresee all the necessary requirements for the installation and functioning of the Committee established under the Convention and the Optional Protocol after the entry into force of the Convention, as well as for the dissemination of information on the Convention and the Optional Protocol;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue the progressive implementation of standards and guidelines for the accessibility of facilities and services of the United Nations system, taking into account relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular when undertaking renovations;

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[1] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

6. *Requests* United Nations agencies and organizations, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue undertaking efforts to disseminate accessible information on the Convention and the Optional Protocol, to promote their understanding, to prepare for their entry into force and to assist States parties in implementing their obligations under these instruments;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the status of the Convention and the Optional Protocol and the implementation of the present resolution.

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18 December 2007

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 70 (*f*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/62/439/Add.6)*]

62/171. International Year of Human Rights Learning

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations include promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Reaffirming the central importance of human rights education in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[2]

Recalling its resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, in which it decided that the Human Rights Council should, inter alia, promote human rights education and learning as well as advisory services, technical assistance and capacity-building,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in which Heads of State and Government expressed their support for the promotion of human rights education and learning at all levels, including through the implementation of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, as appropriate, and encouraged all States to develop initiatives in that regard,[3]

Noting the complementarities between the World Programme for Human Rights Education and the International Year of Human Rights Learning,

Acknowledging the important role played by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in promoting and coordinating the Education for All programmes,

Welcoming the adoption by the Human Rights Council on 28 September 2007 of resolution 6/9 entitled "Development of public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights", resolution 6/10 entitled "United Nations declaration on human rights

[1] See resolution 217 A (III).

[2] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, paras. 78–82.

[3] See resolution 60/1, para. 131.

education and training", and resolution 6/24 entitled "World Programme for Human Rights Education",[4]

Acknowledging that non-governmental organizations play an important role at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion and protection of human rights through education and learning,

Considering that the sixtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 2008 is a suitable occasion for the United Nations to increase its efforts to promote a human rights culture worldwide through education and learning,

Convinced that every woman, man and child, in order to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced also that human rights learning should contribute to the fulfilment of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a way of life for people everywhere,

1. *Decides* that the year commencing on 10 December 2008 shall be proclaimed the International Year of Human Rights Learning, to be devoted to activities undertaken to broaden and deepen human rights learning on the basis of the principles of universality, indivisibility, interdependency, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, constructive dialogue and cooperation, with a view to enhancing the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, bearing in mind the duty of the State, regardless of the political, economic and cultural system, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify their efforts, throughout the Year and beyond, to promote human rights learning and education at the local, national and international levels, and encourages cooperation at all levels and with all relevant stakeholders to this end;

3. *Invites* the Human Rights Council and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to develop with Member States, in cooperation with civil society organizations and appropriate specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, activities suitable for promoting human rights learning, as appropriate, at all levels of society;

4. *Decides* to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] at a plenary meeting to be held on 10 December 2008, and encourages the participation of Member States at the highest level possible;

5. *Also decides* to devote a special meeting at the end of the Year, during its sixty-fourth session, to reviewing activities undertaken by Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and civil society during the Year, and further decides to determine the format of the meeting at a later date;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

77th plenary meeting
18 December 2007

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[4] See A/HRC/6/L.11. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53).

United Nations A/RES/62/172

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Agenda item 106

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/62/440)*]

62/172. Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism

The General Assembly,

Recalling all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to technical assistance in countering terrorism,

Stressing the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation to prevent and suppress effectively terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, whenever and for whatever purposes, in particular by enhancing the national capacity of Member States through the provision of technical assistance,

Reaffirming all aspects of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/288 of 8 September 2006,

Acknowledging that, in the Strategy, Member States resolved to implement all relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to terrorism,

Stressing the importance of the institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force within the Secretariat in order to ensure overall coordination and coherence of the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system, with the aim of providing technical assistance to Member States,

Mindful that, in the Strategy, Member States encouraged the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including its Terrorism Prevention Branch, to enhance, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, its provision of technical assistance to States, upon request, to facilitate the implementation of the international conventions and protocols related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions,

Bearing in mind that, in the Strategy, Member States encouraged the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to enhance cooperation with States to help them to comply fully with international norms and obligations to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism,

Bearing in mind also that, in the Strategy, Member States encouraged relevant regional and subregional organizations to create or strengthen counter-terrorism

mechanisms or centres and encouraged, where consistent with its existing mandate, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, to facilitate the provision of cooperation and assistance to that end,

Recalling its resolution 61/181 of 20 December 2006, in which it invited all States to increase their support to the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund or through voluntary contributions in direct support of such activities,

Recalling also that the Security Council, in its resolution 1535 (2004) of 26 March 2004, recognized that visits by the Counter-Terrorism Committee to States, with the consent of the State concerned, to monitor the implementation of Council resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 should be conducted, when appropriate, in close cooperation with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and other United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular with its Terrorism Prevention Branch, taking special care of the assistance that might be available to address States' needs,

Expressing its appreciation for the efforts recently undertaken by the Terrorism Prevention Branch to maximize the efficiency of its technical assistance by providing it in the official languages of the United Nations,

Noting with appreciation initiatives to facilitate the implementation of the Strategy, such as the Symposium on Advancing the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, held in Vienna on 17 and 18 May 2007 and organized by the Government of Austria, in cooperation with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including its Terrorism Prevention Branch, for providing, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, technical assistance to States, upon request, to facilitate the implementation of the international conventions and protocols related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions, and requests the Office, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to continue its efforts in that regard;

2. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties without delay to the existing international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide legislative assistance to Member States, upon request, and to facilitate the implementation of those instruments;

3. *Urges* Member States to strengthen international cooperation, to the greatest extent possible, in order to prevent and suppress terrorism, including, when necessary, by entering into bilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance, within the framework of the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions, and in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, and to ensure adequate training of all relevant personnel in executing international cooperation; and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide assistance to Member States, upon request, to that end;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to intensify its efforts to provide Member

States with technical assistance, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and suppressing terrorism by facilitating the implementation of the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in particular by training criminal justice officials on the implementation of those international instruments, for instance through specialized training sessions and specialized technical tools and publications, in close coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of the development and maintenance of fair and effective criminal justice systems, including the humane treatment of all those in pretrial and correctional facilities, in accordance with applicable international law as a fundamental basis of any strategy to counter terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, whenever appropriate, to take into account in its technical assistance programme to counter terrorism the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, to continue to work with international organizations and relevant entities of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and subregional organizations, in the delivery of technical assistance, whenever appropriate and within its mandate, specifically to enhance legal cooperation, good practices and legal training in the area of counter-terrorism;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Member States that have supported the technical assistance activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including through financial contributions, and invites all Member States to consider making additional voluntary financial contributions, as well as providing in-kind support, especially in view of the need for enhanced and effective delivery of technical assistance to assist Member States with the implementation of relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;[1]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with sufficient resources for its activities, including in the area of counter-terrorism, within its mandate, for assisting Member States in the implementation of the strategy for the period 2008–2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

9. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report on expenditure for terrorism prevention activities, in the context of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2008–2009 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its reconvened eighteenth session;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a written report on the implementation of the present resolution.

77th plenary meeting
18 December 2007

[1] Resolution 60/288.

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 106

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/62/440)*]

62/173. Follow-up to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling its resolution 56/201 of 21 December 2001, on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/3 of 11 July 2003, on the progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 56/201, in which the Council recommended that all organizations of the United Nations development system should consider lessons learned and their dissemination as a specific required component of their activities, emphasized the importance of evaluation of operational activities of the United Nations system in order to enhance their effectiveness and impact, and called upon the Secretary-General to integrate into future reports a stronger focus on lessons learned, results and outcome,

Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, in which it emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments to stay fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling further its resolution 60/177 of 16 December 2005, in which it endorsed the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, adopted at the high-level segment of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and

approved by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session and subsequently by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2005/15 of 22 July 2005,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/26 of 27 July 2006, in which the Council requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene an intergovernmental group of experts to discuss the Eleventh Congress and previous congresses in order to accumulate and consider lessons learned from prior congresses with a view to developing a methodology for capturing lessons learned for future congresses, and to submit a report on its work to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its sixteenth session for its consideration, and welcomed the offer of the Government of Thailand to act as host to the intergovernmental group of experts,

Recalling also its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders,

Considering that, pursuant to its resolutions 415 (V) and 46/152 of 18 December 1991, the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is to be held in 2010,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its meeting held in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006,[1] and endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts;[2]

2. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to implement the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice[3] and the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice[4] in formulating legislation and policy directives, where appropriate;

3. *Encourages* Member States to consider utilizing the reporting checklist developed by the Government of Thailand on implementation of the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses, as a useful self-assessment tool in their reporting on the follow-up to the Eleventh Congress;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of regional preparatory meetings, including meetings of the least developed countries, for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth Congress, for consideration and approval by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites Member States to be actively involved in that process;

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[1] E/CN.15/2007/6.

[2] Ibid., chap. IV, paras. 35–47.

[3] Resolution 60/177, annex.

[4] See *Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Bangkok, 18–25 April 2005: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.IV.7).

6. *Accepts with gratitude* the offer of the Government of Brazil to act as host to the Twelfth Congress, and requests the Secretary-General to initiate consultations with the Government and to report on them to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventeenth session;

7. *Decides* that the duration of the Twelfth Congress should not exceed eight days, including pre-Congress consultations;

8. *Invites* Member States to be represented at the Twelfth Congress at the highest possible level, for example by Heads of State or Government, Government ministers or attorneys general, to make statements on the theme and topics of the Twelfth Congress and to participate in interactive round tables;

9. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations programmes, specialized agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Twelfth Congress;

10. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the necessary resources, from within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009, for the preparations for the Twelfth Congress and to ensure that adequate resources are provided in the programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011 to support the holding of the Congress;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in the regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth Congress and in the Congress itself, in accordance with past practice;

12. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its seventeenth session, to finalize the programme for the Twelfth Congress and to make its final recommendations on the theme and on the organization of round tables and workshops to be held by panels of experts, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventeenth session.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 106

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/62/440)*]

62/174. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/182 of 20 December 2006 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Bearing in mind the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Bearing in mind also the Programme of Action, 2006–2010, endorsed by the Round Table for Africa, held in Abuja on 5 and 6 September 2005,[2]

Aware of the devastating impact of crime on the national economies of African States and of the fact that crime is a major obstacle to harmonious and sustainable development in Africa,

Noting that the financial situation of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Also commends* the initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in strengthening its working relationship with the Institute by supporting and involving the Institute in the implementation of a number of activities, including those contained in the Programme of Action, 2006–2010[2] on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa;

[1] A/62/127.

[2] Available from www.unodc.org/art/en/ppaa.html.

3. *Further commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to provide the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

4. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

5. *Notes* a significant increase in the levels of payment of member States' financial contributions to the Institute;

6. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to continue to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

7. *Urges* all Member States and non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue adopting concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and to implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

8. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[3]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work closely with the Institute;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue making concrete proposals, including for the provision of additional core professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/62/440)*]

62/175. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, and its resolution 61/181 of 20 December 2006 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Recalling also its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005 on the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in particular the sections on transnational crime and terrorism,

Taking note with appreciation of the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of the strategy for the period 2008–2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[1] which aims, inter alia, to enhance its effectiveness and flexibility in providing technical assistance and policy services,

Recalling section XI of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as its governing body", where the Commission, as the principal United Nations policymaking body on crime prevention and criminal justice issues, was given the authority to approve the budget of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, and looking forward to the outcome of the reconvened sixteenth session of the Commission, to be held on 29 and 30 November 2007,

Recalling also its resolution 61/209 of 20 December 2006, entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption",

Reaffirming its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the

[1] See Economic and Social Council resolutions 2007/12 and 2007/19.

ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[2] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[3] and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism, including those recently entered into force,

Reaffirming also the commitments undertaken by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,[4]

Recalling its resolution 61/180 of 20 December 2006, on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and the coordinating role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in this respect,

Welcoming the joint launch of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Labour Office, the International Organization for Migration, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations Children's Fund, as well as the planned Vienna Forum, to be held from 13 to 15 February 2008, which aims to raise awareness and foster international cooperation and global partnerships to effectively address trafficking in persons, in accordance with decision 16/1 of 27 April 2007 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[5]

Taking into consideration all relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 2007/20, 2007/21, 2007/22, 2007/23 and 2007/24 of 26 July 2007, and all those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance, in particular in Africa,

Emphasizing that its resolution 61/143 of 19 December 2006 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women has considerable implications for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and its activities,

Recalling the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[6]

Recognizing that actions against transnational organized crime and terrorism are a common and shared responsibility, and stressing the need to work collectively to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recognizing also the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime between all relevant priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

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[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[3] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[4] Resolution 60/288.

[5] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 10* (E/2007/30/Rev.1), Part One, chap. I, sect. D.

[6] Resolution 60/177, annex.

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/181;[7]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices;

3. *Recognizes* the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of corruption, organized crime, money-laundering, terrorism, kidnapping, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection of victims, and international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance, as well as efforts undertaken in implementing the Programme of Action, 2006–2010, on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa,[8] in order to reduce the impact of crime and drugs as impediments to security and development in Africa;

4. *Notes* the importance of continuing to enable Member States to strengthen their capacity in developing abilities to combat kidnapping in accordance with the United Nations Counter-Kidnapping Manual, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance and cooperation in this area, upon request by interested Member States;

5. *Invites* Member States to identify, on a continuous basis, best practices in combating trafficking in persons and to share the outcome with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and, where appropriate, with the other partners in the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, to further assist them in their efforts to combat the global threat of human trafficking;

6. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have mandates related to transnational organized crime, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and to take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* Economic and Social Council decision 2007/253 of 26 July 2007, according to which the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its seventeenth session, in April 2008, would hold a thematic discussion on the aspects of violence against women that fall within its mandate, and encourages Member States to be appropriately represented and to participate actively in the thematic debate;

8. *Draws attention* to the emerging policy issues identified in the report of the Secretary-General, inter alia, urban crime, the sexual exploitation of children, fraud and identity theft, international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources, and invites the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to explore, within its mandate, ways and means of

[7] A/62/126.

[8] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/21.

addressing these issues, bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolutions 2007/12 of 25 July 2007 and 2007/19 of 26 July 2007 on the strategy for the period 2008–2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

9. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to develop national and regional strategies, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, in cooperation with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, to address effectively transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons, the smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and transnational trafficking in firearms, as well as corruption and terrorism;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impact in the fight against transnational organized crime, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

11. *Urges* all Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the Protocols thereto,[2] the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Merida Convention)[3] and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and encourages States parties to continue to provide full support to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, including providing information to the Conferences regarding compliance with the treaties;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, as well as to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, and invites Member States to provide the Office with appropriate resources for its mandate;

13. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals and handbooks developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

14. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with the high priority accorded to it and in accordance with the increasing demand for its services, in particular with regard to the provision of increased assistance to developing countries, countries with economies in transition and those emerging from conflict, in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice reform;

15. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with its high priorities,

and to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses.

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